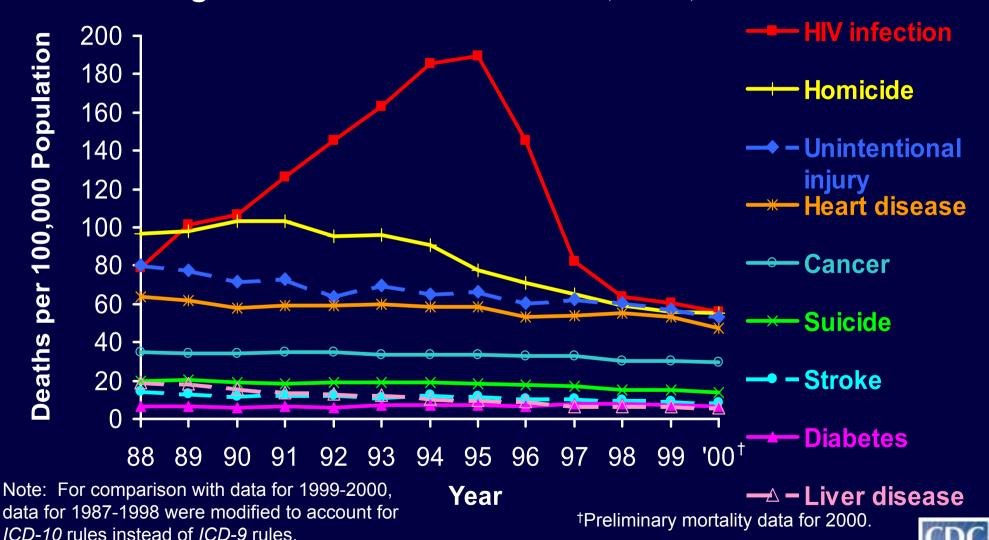
Trends in Annual Rates of Death due to Leading Causes of Death among Black Men 25-44 Years Old, USA, 1987-2000



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Among black men 25 to 44 years old, HIV infection has been the leading cause of death since 1991, when it surpassed homicide in the ranking of causes of death. HIV infection caused about 9,000 deaths, or 34% of all deaths in this group at its peak in 1995, but only about 3,000 deaths, or 16% of the total, in 2000. If the rates of death due to homicide and unintentional injury had not also decreased, HIV infection would not have continued to be the leading cause of death in 2000.

